

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for automated underwriting of segmentable financial instrument assets using a portfolio valuation system, said method comprising the steps of:

defining clusters of financial instruments by common attributes;

5 receiving an expert opinion of value from selected samples of the clusters;

checking values for combinations of attributes; and

reconciling the values.

10 2. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting and setting individual attributes to be used for the underwriting.

3. A method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of classifying individual assets into clusters.

4. A method according to Claim 3 further comprising the step of applying a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.

15 5. A method according to Claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

desegregating values using a rule; and

creating a credit analyst table with the desegregated values.

6. A method according to Claim 5 further comprising the step of using the credit analyst table establish at least one asset class.

20 7. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of defining clusters of financial instruments by common attributes further comprises the step of identifying clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

8. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving an expert opinion of value further comprises the step of evaluating the assets by computer with the assistance from an experienced underwriter.

9. A portfolio valuation system for automated underwriting of segmentable financial instrument assets, said system comprising:

a computer configured as a server and further configured with a database of asset portfolios;

at least one client system connected to said server through a network, said server configured to define clusters of financial instruments by common attributes, receive an expert opinion of value from selected samples of the clusters, check values for combinations of attributes and reconcile the values of the samples.

10. A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is configured to select and set individual attributes to be used for the underwriting.

11. A system according to Claim 10 wherein said server is configured to classify individual assets into clusters.

12. A system according to Claim 11 wherein said server is configured to apply a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.

13. A system according to Claim 12 wherein said server is configured to:

desegregate values using a rule; and

create a credit analyst table with the desegregated values.

14. A system according to Claim 13 wherein said server is configured to use the credit analyst table establish at least one asset class.

15. A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is configured to identify clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

5 16. A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is configured to evaluate the assets with assistance from an experienced underwriter.

17. A computer for automated underwriting of segmentable financial instrument assets, said computer including a database of asset portfolios, said computer programmed to:

10 define clusters of financial instruments by common attributes;  
receive an expert opinion of value from selected samples of the clusters;  
check values for combinations of attributes; and  
reconcile the values of the samples.

15 18. A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to select and set individual attributes to be used for the underwriting.

19. A computer according to Claim 18 programmed to classify individual assets into clusters.

20. A computer according to Claim 19 programmed to apply a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.

20 21. A computer according to Claim 20 programmed to:  
desegregate values using a rule; and  
create a credit analyst table with the desegregated values.

22. A computer according to Claim 21 programmed to use the credit analyst table establish at least one asset class.

23. A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to identify clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

24. A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to evaluate the assets with assistance from an experienced underwriter.

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